

We claim:

1. A system comprising:
 - a first portable detection unit including:
 - at least one detector to detect at least one event;
 - a detection controller coupled to the at least one detector; and
 - a detection bi-directional communications module coupled to the detection controller;
 - a first personal control panel including:
 - an input/output device;
 - a panel controller coupled to the input/output device; and
 - a panel bi-directional communications module coupled to the panel controller; and
 - a long-range, bi-directional, wireless network communicating between the detection bi-directional communications module and the panel bi-directional communications module.